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1
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Job Training for RURAL PEOPLE

*An Aid in Rural Areas
Development*

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Job Training for RURAL PEOPLE

Is unemployment, under-employment or low income a problem in your county or town? What's being done about it? What can be done?

Many rural areas are organizing, and taking steps to improve agricultural production, bring in new industries, and provide new services to increase job opportunities and incomes.

Capable, trained workers will be needed to take advantage of these new employment opportunities. Young people and unskilled workers will need training. Unemployed people—or workers with jobs that don't pay enough—will need retraining, to learn new skills.

It is important to train and retrain workers to match their abilities with the kinds of jobs available or which can be made available through the development of local resources. Economic development and adequate training will benefit individual workers—and the community as a whole.

TRAINING—RETRAINING HELP AVAILABLE

There are several types of educational or training programs being conducted at the State or local levels by public as well as private agencies. An acquaintance with these will help you determine how they may be useful in your community.

Federal Assistance

Federal assistance is available for training and retraining. Check to find out if your area can qualify for such Federal assistance.

Let's take a quick look at the Federal programs available, and where you can get more information.

ARA Occupational Training and Retraining

If your county is a rural Redevelopment Area, designated under the Area Redevelopment Act, you may already have—or soon will have—a local committee to prepare and carry out an Overall Economic Development Program. As part of its general plan, your area's development program should give serious thought to including a proposal for occupational training and retraining.

ARA training and retraining programs are locally designed to qualify unemployed and under-employed workers primarily for local job opportunities.

If training and retraining are included in your area's overall development program, your State department of employment security will establish an area technical committee on training. This committee will determine area training requirements by studying current and prospective labor supply and demand.

If the area technical committee finds a need for occupational training and their recommendations are approved, vocational education representatives on the committee will take the lead in developing training plans. These plans may include both in-school and on-the-job training.

If in-school training is to be given, it will be planned and administered by the State board of vocational education, which in most States operates through the State department of education. Trainees may be paid weekly subsistence payments equal to the average State weekly unemployment compensation benefits for a maximum of 16 weeks, under this program. Prospective trainees will be recruited, selected, and helped to find employment by the local employment security agencies.

If on-the-job training is appropriate, it will be arranged by individual employers with the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, Department of Labor.

Your county Extension agent can tell you if your area is a Redevelopment Area. If it is, he can put you in touch with the organization working on the Overall Economic Development Program—or the technical committee on training.

Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962

The newest and broadest Federal program for training and retraining will be carried out under the Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962. This program may be of assistance in any area. It will provide occupational training for unemployed or under-employed workers who can reasonably be expected to secure employment after training.

Unemployed workers will be given priority for training. During the period of training, unemployed trainees may be paid Federal training allowance for up to 52 weeks. Workers in farm families with net annual income of less than \$1,200 will be eligible for the same benefits as unemployed workers.

The Department of Labor will study employment opportunities. Unemployed or under-employed workers will be tested, counseled, and selected for training, and provided with placement services following training. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare will arrange with State vocational education agencies to provide the training or retraining. The Labor Department will also encourage the development of on-the-job training activities.

Contact your local employment security office and your local school officials or your State Director of Vocational Education for further information.

Public Vocational Educational Programs

Public vocational education programs are offered in many of the high schools and the area vocational schools. These programs are designed to prepare people for useful employ-

ment in agriculture, marketing, home economics, trades, industry, practical nursing, and certain technical fields.

The Federal vocational education acts provide for Federal financial assistance to State boards for vocational education. Local boards of education then apply to the State board for assistance in conducting programs designed to meet the training needs of individuals in the community.

Public vocational training is offered as a part of the regular high school program and is also available for people who are out of school, but who want: (1) to improve their abilities for their present job, or (2) to qualify for better jobs.

Your local school officials can tell you what types of training are offered in your community. They will welcome your interest in present programs and also your suggestions on plans for developing programs to meet future needs.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Training and retraining is one way your community can give workers the skills they need to make more adequate incomes.

You can help obtain a training and retraining program. You can do your share—working with other community leaders and local officials—to help your area.

REMEMBER—

- Unemployment, under-employment and low incomes are community problems.

- New jobs, better jobs can be provided through community action.

- Workers need training and retraining to prepare for better jobs.

- Federal assistance may be available and this possibility should be explored.

- Contact your county Extension agent. He can tell you where you can get more information on the kinds of training and retraining now available—locally and from State and Federal sources. He can tell you if a local group is working on training and retraining as part of an area development program. Or he can help you and other community leaders organize to explore needs and possibilities. Your interest and help can bring higher levels of living to your neighbors and your community.

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